M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1181	Press / ~~Mis.~~
508. 509	
Dated 27. 3. 1862.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 27th May 1862.

No. 508. Read the following letter from W. GREY, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India (Home Department Separate Revenue), to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, dated Fort William, 22nd April 1862, No. 2,103 :—

SIR,

1. With reference to the correspondence marginally noted, I am directed to forward herewith copy of a letter from the Calcutta Board of Revenue,* together with the revised forms of Trade and Shipping Returns therein referred to, and to request that these forms may be substituted for those prepared by the Customs Committee in 1861, which were forwarded to you with my letter dated the 3rd of May 1861.

To Secy. to Govt. Fort Saint George, No. 923, dated 3rd May 1861.
From do. do. ,, 1,254, dated 26th June 1861.
From do. do. ,, 1,323, dated 3rd July 1861, and enclosures.
From C. Collett, Esq., Acting Reporter External Commerce, Madras, dated 9th August 1861, and enclosures.

* No. 1,746, dated 6th December 1861.

2. I am desired to suggest that it may be found useful if a quarterly comparative abstract of the monthly Returns is made and published in the Government Gazette.

From Honorable A. EDEN, Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, No. 1,746, dated 6th December 1861.

1. In continuation of Mr. Prinsep's letter No. 1,508 of the 30th September, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to state that, on examining the Trade Returns prepared in this Office, they find that through a misapprehension of the purport of the headings of the forms of Return recommended by the Customs Committee they have been incorrectly drawn up; the quantities and values of goods cleared for Home consumption only having been given, and not the total Imports of each month. They are, therefore, insufficient for the purpose for which they were intended, though the results recorded will be useful, and can be embodied in the enclosed amended Forms* of Return which the Board wish to substitute for those of the Customs Committee.

Customs.
A. R. Young, Squire.

* No. 1 Imports from Foreign Ports .. ... Dutiable.
,, 2 ,, from ,, ,, ... Free.
,, 3 ,, from British Indian Ports .. Free.
,, 1 Exports to Foreign Ports .. .. Dutiable.
,, 2 ,, to ,, ,, ... Free.
,, 3 ,, to British Indian Ports .. .. Free.
,, 1 Arrivals and Departures of vessels from and to Foreign Ports (No. and Tonnage).
,, 2 Arrivals and Departures of vessels from and to Foreign Ports (No., Tonnage, and Nationality).
,, 3 Arrivals and departures of vessels from and to British Indian Ports (No. and Tonnage).
,, 4 Arrivals and Departures of vessels from and to British Indian Ports (No., Tonnage, and Nationality).

2. The Forms of the Customs Committee forwarded with your letter No. 250 (A) dated the 31st May last, are found to be very incomplete. They do not contain all the information that is required, whilst they comprise much which is of no practical use.

3. Before submitting to Government the revised Forms which they propose, the Board thought it desirable to ascertain the views of the Chamber of Commerce on the subject. The forms were accordingly submitted to the Chamber, and the Board are glad to learn that they are considered by that body fully to meet the requirements of the Trade. Certain alterations having been verbally suggested by the Committee of the Chamber, the Board requested the Secretary of the Chamber to draw out a Form embodying the changes which they would propose in the Board's Forms, and this is accordingly submitted, with a demi-official note† from that gentleman, explaining the object of the changes.

† Dated 29th ultimo.

4. It will be seen that the only alterations proposed are, to substitute for the column of *monthly* comparison, a column of *tri-monthly* comparisons; to extend the period for which the comparison is made to three years instead of two; and to give the nationalities of the Shipping Return in proportion to the trade of each nation, instead of alphabetically. The Board see no objection to these changes. After the Returns have existed for three years, it will be just as

easy to pick out, for comparative purposes, the trade of three years as of two. In the mean time it will involve a slight increase of labor, as there are no monthly Returns in existence in precisely this form. There are, indeed, no authoritative monthly Returns at all, and the comparative entries will have to be extracted from Mr. Bonnaud's compilation, which is probably sufficiently accurate for the purpose. As regards the mode of entering nationalities, the Board think it does not matter much whether it is alphabetical or in proportion to the trade. Their reason for selecting an alphabetical arrangement was, that they thought that where the smaller ports were concerned, it would facilitate reference; but if the Chamber think otherwise, the Board have no wish to contest the point.

5. The Board have already, in Mr. Prinsep's letter of the 30th September, alluded to the subject of a separate entry for real computed values. In the accompanying Form they have not provided for any such Return. The Imports and Exports, they desire me to observe, are of four descriptions:—1*st* those paying duty according to a periodically revised table of fixed valuations; 2*nd* those paying duty at the market rate of the day; 3*rd* those paying specific duties, such as Wine, Spirits, and Grain; 4*th* Free goods. The computed real values of goods entered under the first of these conditions cannot differ from the tariff valuations, unless the tariff requires revision. The correct valuation of goods under the second of these conditions is ensured by the enforcement of the provisions, Section III, Regulation VI of 1833. The third and fourth classes of goods are those alone on which a difference between the declared and real value is possible; and this may easily be obviated by introducing a Section into the Customs Bill now before Government, rendering goods of this description liable to be treated in the same manner as under-valued dutiable goods now are under Section III, Regulation VI of 1833.

P. S.—The return of the enclosures is requested.

No. 509. ORDER THEREON, 27th May 1862, No. 1,181.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue, with reference to the Proceedings of Government dated 25th May 1861, No. 1,084. The Board will issue the necessary instructions to the Collectors of Maritime Districts, and make arrangements in their own Office to which the Establishment of the Reporter of External Commerce has been recently transferred, for the substitution of the present forms for those received with the letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, dated 3rd May 1862, No. 923.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

From H. BELL, Esquire, Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to W. GREY, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India,—No. 610A, dated the 21st December 1861.

IN continuation of Mr. Monro's endorsement No. 486A, dated 9th October last, I am directed to forward, for the approval of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the accompanying copy of a letter* from the Board of Revenue, submitting amended forms of Trade Returns which the Board wish to substitute for those of the Customs Committee, and to state that the Lieutenant-Governor recommends them for approval.

* No. 1746, dated 6th instant.

2. With reference to the enquiries contained in paragraphs 4 and 5 of your letter No. 888, dated 3rd May last, I am to refer you to paragraph 2 of the Board's letter* already submitted by Mr. Monro's endorsement of the 9th October last, No. 486A, from which it will appear that the Board availed themselves of the Collector's Establishment for the preparation of the Trade Returns

* No. 1508, dated 30th September last.

From Hon'ble A. EDEN, Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—No. 1746, dated the 6th December 1861.

IN continuation of Mr. Prinsep's letter No. 1508 of the 30th September, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to state that, on examining the Trade Returns prepared in this Office, they find that, through a misapprehension of the purport of the headings of the Forms prescribed by the Customs Committee, they have been incorrectly drawn up, the quantities and values of goods cleared for Home consumption only having been given, and not the total Imports of each month. They are, therefore, insufficient for the purpose for which they were intended, though the results recorded will be useful, and can be embodied in the enclosed amended Forms* of Return which the Board wish to substitute for those of the Customs Committee.

Customs.
A. R. Young, Esquire.

* No. 1 Imports from Foreign Ports ... ... Dutiable.
„ 2 „ from „ „ ... ... Free.
„ 3 „ from British Indian Ports ... Free.
„ 1 Exports to Foreign Ports ... ... Dutiable.
„ 2 „ to „ „ ... ... Free.
„ 3 „ to British Indian Ports ... Free
„ 1 Arrivals and Departures of vessels from and to Foreign Ports (No. and Tonnage).
„ 2 Arrivals and Departures of vessels from and to Foreign Ports (No., Tonnage, and Nationality).
„ 3 Arrivals and Departures of vessels from and to British Indian Ports (No. and Tonnage).
„ 4 Arrivals and Departures of vessels from and to British Indian Ports (No., Tonnage, and Nationality).

2. The Forms of the Customs Committee forwarded with your letter No. 250(A) dated the 31st May last, are found to be very incomplete. They do not contain all the information that is required, whilst they comprise much which is of no practical use.

3. Before submitting to Government the revised Forms which they propose, the Board thought it desirable to ascertain the views of the Chamber of Commerce on the subject. The forms were accordingly submitted to the Chamber, and the Board are glad to learn that they are considered by that body fully to meet the requirements of the Trade. Certain alterations having been verbally suggested by the Committee of the Chamber, the Board requested the

Secretary of the Chamber to draw out a Form embodying the changes which they would propose in the Board's Forms, and this is accordingly submitted, with a demi-official note* from that gentleman, explaining the object of the changes.

* Dated 29th ultimo.

4. It will be seen that the only alterations proposed are, to substitute for the column of *monthly* comparison, a column of *tri-monthly* comparisons; to extend the period for which the comparison is made to three years instead of two; and to give the nationalities of the Shipping Return in proportion to the trade of each nation, instead of alphabetically. The Board see no objection to these changes. After the Returns have existed for three years, it will be just as easy to pick out, for comparative purposes, the trade of three years as of two. In the mean time it will involve a slight increase of labor, as there are no monthly Returns in existence in precisely this form. There are, indeed, no authoritative monthly Returns at all, and the comparative entries will have to be extracted from Mr. Bonnaud's compilation, which is probably sufficiently accurate for the purpose. As regards the mode of entering nationalities, the Board think it does not matter much whether it is alphabetical or in proportion to the trade. Their reason for selecting an alphabetical arrangement was, that they thought that where the smaller ports were concerned, it would facilitate reference; but if the Chamber think otherwise, the Board have no wish to contest the point.

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P. S.—The return of the enclosures is requested.

Rec'd 8th/62

No 2103

From

J. Grey Esq^r

Secretary to the Gov^t of Bengal

To

W. Muir Esq^r

Secretary to the Gov^t of

Fort St George

Dated at the Castle Feb^y 22 April 1862

Home Dep^t Sir,

Sep^t Nov

With reference to the correspondence

marginally noted, I am directed to forward

herewith copy of a letter from

No 1926/93 dated 9th May 1861 from the Calcutta Board of Revenue,

From Do Do No 1323/82 dated 7th July "

From C. Mills Esq^r Acting Secretary Chamber of Commerce Calcutta dated 19th August 1861 Encl^s

together with the revised forms of

Trade and Shipping Returns

No 2135 of 24 Dec 1861

thereon referred to, and to request that these

forms may be substituted for those prepared

by the Customs Committee in 1861, which were

forwarded to you with my letter dated the 3^d of

May 1861.

2 I am desired to suggest that it

may be found useful if a quarterly comparative

abstract of the Monthly Returns is made

and published in the Government Gazette.

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your Most Obed^t Serv^t

(Signed)

Secretary to the Gov^t of Bengal

N° 1181.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue in the reference to the Pro: of Govt of 25 May 1861, N° 1084. The Board will issue the necessary instructions to the Collectors of Maritime Districts and make arrangements in their own office to which the Establt of the Reporter of External Commerce has been recently transferred, for the substitution of the present forms for those received with the Letter from the Secretary to the Government of India of 3 May 1862 N° 923.

First Vt George
27 May 1862
Ch Clerk 3d Rev Dept 28

Forms to be sent in receipt

Pro: 25 May /61 N° 214-215
" 26 June " 254-255
" 3 July " 36-37.

From Bd of Revenue
D/ 4 Aug / 62
(N° 2207 w

N° 508 509.

6 12 May 62 20

Rev: 1862 Oct
Pro: of Govt for May
N° 1317.

From the Secty to the Govt of India

Dated 22 Oct } 1862.
Received 7 May }

E-1 N° 2103.

Transmitting with a suggestion copy of a letter from the Calcutta Board of Rev: together with revised forms of Trade and Shipping Returns therein referred to, and requesting that these forms may be substituted for those prepared by the Customs Committee in 1861, which were forwarded with their letter of 3 May 1861. N° 1181. With an Order